

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 13-23, amend claims 1, 2, 6, and 11, and add claims 24-28, as follows.

*Sub B*  
1. (Amended) A ball comprising an outer skin, the outer skin being formed as a sheet including a first layer which includes a syntactic material.

*A3*  
2. (Amended) A ball according to claim 1 wherein the syntactic material comprises a plurality of resilient spherical bodies dispersed in a matrix material.

*Off 5/18 D-24*  
3. (Amended) A ball according to claim 2 [1] wherein the matrix material is selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyurethane foam, polyvinyl chloride, and latex.

*Q5 5/18 D-25*  
4. (Amended) A ball according to claim 2 [1] wherein the matrix material is an adhesive.

*Sub B*  
24. A ball according to claim 1, wherein the sheet is cut into individual elements which are joined together.

*A4 5/18 D-26*  
25. A ball according to claim 24, wherein the individual elements are sewn together.

*Sub B*  
26. A ball according to claim 2, wherein the spherical bodies are not more than 20% by weight of the matrix material.

*Sub B*  
27. A ball according to claim 2, wherein the spherical bodies are not less than 1% by weight of the matrix material.

*Sub B*  
28. A ball comprising an inflatable bladder core and an outer skin, the outer skin including a first layer which includes a syntactic material.

REMARKS

The abstract of the disclosure is hereby amended by replacement to delete the reference numbers and the "is claimed" language. Applicant respectfully submits that the abstract does not constitute new matter, support being found in the original abstract.

Independent claim 1 is hereby amended to more clearly define the subject matter of Applicant's invention. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at least on page 4, lines 15-29, and page 8, line 18, to page 10, line 3.